

**Amendments to the claims are as follows:**

1. (Currently Amended) An illuminating mechanism of a rotary electric component comprising:

a rotary knob assembled in a cutout of a front panel in an exposed state,

a thin faceplate having a display portion disposed around the rotary knob,

a holder for bonding and fixing an inner circumferential portion and an outer circumferential portion of ~~at~~the rear surface of the faceplate, and

a light source for emitting light from ~~at~~the rear side of the faceplate to the display portion,

wherein a region of the holder bonded to the outer circumferential portion of the faceplate protrudes forward farther than a region of the holder bonded to the inner circumferential portion of the faceplate by a predetermined amount, and an area in the vicinity of the outer circumferential portion of the faceplate is pressed by a protruding portion formed on the rear surface of the front panel.

2. (Original) An illuminating mechanism of a rotary electric component according to Claim 1, wherein the protruding portion is continuously formed around the circumferential edge of the cutout of the front panel.